

## Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7871

INFO AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

US MISSION GENEVA 450

DEA HQS WASHDC

CINCPAC J112

CINCPAC (POLAD)

AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI

AMCONSUL SONGKHLA

AMCONSUL UDORN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 3 BANGKOK 16999

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, TH

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS - QUARTERLY ROUNDUP OF THAI DEVELOPMENTS  
JULY THROUGH SEPTEMBER 1974

REF: A) BANGKOK 11537

B) STATE A-3527

SUMMARY:

ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS WERE PARTICULARLY EFFECTIVE AGAINST HEROIN  
REFINERIES DURING THE QUARTER. FOUR REFINERIES WERE PUT OUT  
OF ACTION BY THE SPECIAL NARCOTICS ORGANIZATION (SNO) AND  
BORDER PATROL POLICE (BPP). NARCOTICS SEIZURES, AS REFLECTED  
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IN RTG STATISTICS, CONTINUED TO INCREASE GRADUALLY. AS THE

QUARTER ENDED, FIELDS IN NORTHERN THAILAND WERE BEING CLEARED FOR POPPY PLANTING, AND IT IS LIKELY AS A RESULT OF HIGHER PRICES THAT THERE WILL BE AN INCREASE IN THE ACREAGE DEVOTED TO POPPY THIS YEAR. THE UNITED NATIONS PROGRAM FOR DRUG ABUSE CONTROL (UNPDAC) IS EMPHASIZING RED KIDNEY BEANS AS A SUBSTITUTE CROP FOR OPIUM IN ITS VILLAGES AGAIN THIS SEASON, WHILE CONTINUING ITS EXPERIMENTAL WORK IN SUCH FIELDS AS VEGETABLE SEEDS AND TOBACCO. AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER, 10-15 TONS OF BEAN SEED WERE BEING DISTRIBUTED TO SOME 15 VILLAGES TO BE PLANTED IN A MIXIMUM OF 700 RAI. TWO REGIONAL CONFERENCES OF NARCOTICS LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS WERE HELD IN BANGKOK WITHIN THE LAST THREE MONTHS. AT THESE CONFERENCES, THE GROUNDWORK WAS LAID FOR MORE EFFECTIVE REGIONAL COOPERATION. END SUMMARY.

#### I. PRODUCTION AND PROCESSING

##### A. PRODUCTION

1. RECENT OFFICIAL SURVEYS OF VILLAGES IN CHIANG MAI AND MAE HONG SON PROVINCES INDICATE AVERAGE OPIUM PRODUCTION WAS ABOUT 1.5 CHOI PER RAI OF LAND UNDER CULTIVATION DURING THE 1973/74 GROWING SEASON. ACCORDING TO THESE SURVEYS THAT PORTION OF THE 1973/74 OPIUM CROP SOLD JUST AFTER HARVEST (PRIOR TO EARLY APRIL 1974) BROUGHT \$65 TO \$75 US PER KILOGRAM IN CHIANG MAI. THE REMAINING OPIUM SOLD DURING APRIL THROUGH JULY 1974 BROUGHT \$84 TO \$90 PER KILOGRAM.

2. BY SEPTEMBER 1974 HILLTRIBES PEOPLE IN AREAS NORTH AND WEST OF CHIANG MAI CITY WERE PREPARING THEIR FIELDS FOR THE 1974/75 POPPY CROP. ALL SIGNS POINT TO AN INCREASE IN ACREAGE DEVOTED TO POPPY. BUYERS ARE REPORTED TO BE GOING INTO VILLAGES TO BUY CROPS IN ADVANCE. RECORD PRICES ARE BEING OFFERED FOR THE CROP.

##### B. PROCESSING

1. IN JULY 1974 QUANTITIES OF HEROIN NO. 2, A FORM OF HEROIN BASE FROM WHICH EITHER HEROIN NO. 3 OR HEROIN NO. 4 CAN BE PRODUCED, WERE DISCOVERED PACKAGED IN HOLLOWED-OUT SECTIONS OF

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WOODEN EGG CRATES BEING READIED FOR SHIPMENT FROM BANGKOK TO HONG KONG.

2. THE HEROIN BASE, OR HEROIN NO. 2, IS GRANULAR, LIKE SALT OR SUGAR, AND CAN VARY FROM OFF-WHITE TO BROWN IN COLAR. IT IS VALUABLE BECAUSE IF COSTS LESS TO PRODUCE THAN PROCESSED HEROIN, HAS SMALL BULK, AND CAN BE REFINED INTO HEROIN NO. 3 OR 4. ONE KILOGRAM OF HEROIN NO. 2 CAN BE CONVERTED INTO FROM

FIVE TO TEN KILOGRAMS OF HEROIN NO. 3 OR REFINED INTO HEROIN NO. 4 ON A ONE-TO-ONE BASIS.

3. THAT TRAFFICKERS TRANSPORT VARIOUS FORMS OF OPIUM DERIVATIVES WAS DEMONSTRATED BY THE SEIZURE OF A HEROIN PRODUCING LAB IN BANGKOK, IN MARCH 1974, WHERE PRODUCTION OF A DARK LIQUID HEROIN PERCURSOR OR HEROIN BASE WAS UNDERWAY. THE LIQUID WAS TO BE PACKAGED AND LABELED AS SOY SAUCE AND SHIPPED INTO EUROPE.

## II. TRAFFICKING TRENDS.

A. NARCOTIC TRAFFICKERS WHO MOVE BULK SHIPMENTS OF OPIUM AND MORPHINE BASE FROM THAILAND TO HONG KONG AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL MARKETS VIA TRAWLERS ARE BECOMING INCREASINGLY CAUTIOUS IN THEIR OPERATIONS. NARCOTICS LADEN TRAWLERS REPORTEDLY RUN DUE SOUTH FROM THE GULF OF THAILAND, FOLLOWING THE EAST COAST OF THE KRA PENINSULA UNTIL THEY ARE WELL OUT OF RANGE OF THAI, CAMBODIAN, AND SOUTH VIETNAMESE PATROL VESSELS. THEY THEN HEAD EASTERLY ON A COURSE THAT PASSES ABOUT 200 MILES SOUTH OF THE CAU MAU PENINSULA. THESE TRAWLERS THEN MOVE NORTHEASTERLY UNTIL A VISUAL SIGHTING CAN BE MADE OF THE CONDOR ISLANDS, AND FROM THERE THE TRACK TO HONG KONG IS ESTABLISHED.

B. THERE APPEARS TO BE A PLENTIFUL SUPPLY OF NARCOTICS IN NORTHERN THAILAND; HOWEVER, CONTINUING ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS BY SNO/BPP AND RTG PROVINCIAL POLICE HAVE CAUSED MIDDLE AND HIGH LEVEL TRAFFICKERS IN THE CHIANG MAI AREA TO ADOPT MORE SOPHISTICATED PROCEDURES FOR DELIVERING THEIR PRODUCT TO MARKET. SHIPMENTS OF HEROIN NO. 4 AND MORPHINE BASE ARE REPORTEDLY BEING RESTRICTED TO LOADS OF ABOUT TEN KILOGRAMS PER TRIP. LOCAL DRIVERS WHO CAN FURNISH THEIR OWN VEHICLES ARE BEING HIRED AND PAID AN ESTIMATED \$25.00 US FOR EACH KILOGRAM DELIVERED. THESE DRIVERS ARE ONLY TOLD THEIR DESTINATION AT THE TIME OF

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PICK-UP OF THEIR SHIPMENT, AND OFTEN A TRUSTED EMPLOYEE OF THE SUPPLIER WILL ACCOMPANY THE LOAD TO SEE THAT THE DRIVER DOES NOT ALERT CHECKPOINT POLICE OR DETOUR FROM THIS ROUTE.

## III. ENFORCEMENT

### A. GENERAL

1. DRUG ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS WERE PARTICULARLY EFFECTIVE AGAINST HEROIN REFINERY TARGETS DURING THE QUARTER. FOUR REFINERIES WERE IMMOBILIZED BY SPECIAL NARCOTICS ORGANIZATION (SNO) AND BORDER PATROL POLICE (BPP) RAIDS. A MID-JULY RAID AGAINST A REFINERY ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF CHIANG MAI RESULTED IN THE ARREST OF THREE DEFENDANTS INCLUDING A PROVINCIAL POLICE DEPUTY COMMANDER. THE REFINERY WAS LOCATED ON THE POLICE OFFICIAL'S

PROPERTY. THREE REFINERIES FOUND ALONG THE THAI-BURMA BORDER WERE RAIDED IN SEPTEMBER. TWO OF THESE WERE SMALL, MOBILE, EASY-TO-ASSEMBLY LABORATORIES CAPABLE OF PRODUCING FROM FIVE TO TEN KILOGRAMS AT A TIME. THE THIRD WAS HOUSED IN A 3-HUT COMPOUND, WELL STOCKED WITH CHEMICALS AND WAS ACTIVELY PRODUCING HEROIN NO. 4.

2. RTG CENTRAL NARCOTICS BOARD STATISTICS REFLECT A STEADY INCREASE IN SEIZURES DURING JUNE, JULY AND AUGUST (COMPLETE SEPTEMBER FIGURES ARE NOT YET AVAILABLE):

JUNE: 134 KILOS OPIUM; LESS THAN ONE KILO MORPHINE;  
13 KILOS HEROIN.

JULY: 148 KILOS OPIUM; LESS THAN ONE KILO MORPHINE;  
17 KILOS HEROIN.

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AUGUST: 107 KILOS OPIUM; TWO KILOS MORPHINE; 72 KILOS HEROIN.

(NOTE: CNB FIGURES ARE USEFUL INDICATORS OF OVERALL NARCOTICS SEIZURES IN THAILAND, BUT THEIR ACCURACY IS OFTEN AFFECTED BY (1) INCLUSION OF CONTAINER WEIGHT; (2) NO FOLLOW-UP CORRECTION OF ESTIMATES IN THE ORIGINAL REPORT; (3) FAILURE OF THE RTG NATION-WIDE REPORTING SYSTEM TO REPORT ACCURATELY AND COMPLETELY TO THE CNB; AND (4) PROBABLE CONFUSION AS TO THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MORPHINE AND HEROIN).

#### B. SIGNIFICANT SEIZURES

1. ONLY JULY 8, 1974, SNO FORCES IN CHIANG MAI, ACTING ON INFORMATION FURNISHED BY DEA REGIONAL OFFICE IN BANGKOK, CONFIDENTIAL

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ESTABLISHED A CHECK-POINT OPERATION WHICH RESULTED IN THE SEIZURE OF 59 KILOGRAMS OF COOKED OPIUM AND 1,050 GRAMS OF HEROIN NO. 4, AND THE ARREST OF TWO DEFENDANTS. THE ILLICIT NARCOTICS WERE DISCOVERED HIDDEN IN A TRUCK.

2. ON JULY 11, 1974, SNO OFFICERS FROM THE CHIANG MAI GARRISON, ACTING ON DEA INTELLIGENCE, RAIDED A HEROIN REFINERY ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF CHIANG MAI CITY AND SEIZED REFINERY EQUIPMENT, CHEMICALS, AND A SMALL QUANTITY OF OPIUM AND NO. 4 HEROIN. THAI POLICE ARRESTED THREE DEFENDANTS -- A REFINERY WORKER, A THAI MALE BELIEVED TO BE THE CHEMIST, AND THAI POLICE LT. COL. SAWAI PUTTHARAK, THE OWNER OF THE PROPERTY WHERE THE REFINERY WAS LOCATED. THE CASE IS BEING INVESTIGATED BY THE POLICE NARCOTICS SUPPRESSION CENTER, IN BANGKOK.

3. ON AUGUST 31, 1974, SNO GARRISON FORCES IN CHIANG MAI ARRESTED THREE SUBJECTS AND SEIZED 10.5 KILOGRAMS OF RAW OPIUM FOUND HIDDEN IN A HOUSE IN CHIANG MAI. THE SUSPECTS AND EVIDENCE WERE SUBMITTED TO PROVINCIAL POLICE FOR FURTHER ACTION.

4. ON SEPTEMBER 2, 1974, SNO PERSONNEL, ACTING ON THEIR OWN INTELLIGENCE, SEARCHED A RESIDENCE IN THOEN, LAMPANG PROVINCE AND SEIZED 22.4 KILOGRAMS OF SUSPECTED RAW OPIUM. TWO DEFENDANTS WERE ARRESTED.

5. ON SEPTEMBER 13, 1974, SNO PERSONNEL, UTILIZING SNO INTELLIGENCE, SEIZED SIX KILOGRAMS OF SUSPECTED PITZU (HEROIN BASE) AND ARRESTED ONE DEFENDANT. THE CASE WAS MADE BY THE NEW MAE HONG SON SNO GARRISON COMMANDER. IT IS LIKELY THAT THE PITZU CAME FROM ONE OF THE SUSPECTED REFINERIES ALONG THE THAI/BURMA BORDER.

6. ON SEPTEMBER 13, 1974, THE SNO GARRISON COMMANDER AT MAE HONG SON ACTING ON HIS OWN INFORMATION SEIZED 13.5 KILOGRAMS OF SUSPECTED RAW OPIUM AND ARRESTED ONE DEFENDANT.

7. ON SEPTEMBER 19, 1974, THE FANG SNO GARRISON COMMANDER LOCATED A RELATIVELY LARGE HEROIN NO. 4 REFINERY IN DENSE JUNGLE NEAR THE BURMA BORDER. SNO PERSONNEL AND BPP TROOPS FROM THE FANG AREA HIKE INTO THE AREA AND EXCHANGED FIRE WITH REFINERY GUARDS. NO INJURIES WERE REPORTED. THAI POLICE  
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AIR DIVISION (TPAD) HELICOPTERS WERE USED TO AIRLIFT IN REINFORCEMENTS. SEVEN HUNDRED GRAMS OF SUSPECTED HEROIN NO. 4 AND ABOUT 45 US GALLONS OF LIQUID SUSPECTED OF BEING HEROIN BASE IN A CHEMICAL SOLUTION WERE SEIZED. NO SUSPECTS WERE ARRESTED AT THE DESERTED REFINERY. (COMMENT: THIS WAS THE FIRST CASE CONDUCTED BY SNO IN AN AREA OUTSIDE A LARGE TOWN OR VILLAGE. IT WAS DONE PROFESSIONALLY AND SHOULD ACT AS A CATALYST IN PROMOTING FUTURE SNO EFFORTS IN REMOTE AREAS. SNO/BPP/TPAD COOPERATION WAS GOOD AND SERVED TO STRENGTHEN RAPPORT BETWEEN THE THREE POLICE ORGANIZATIONS.)

8. ON SEPTEMBER 28, 1974, ACTING ON INFORMATION FROM A CHIANG MAI PROVINCIAL POLICE INFORMANT, A COMBINED TEAM OF PROVINCIAL POLICE AND CHIANG MAI SNO FORCES STOPPED A VEHICLE IN WHICH WAS FOUND A CONCEALED SAFE CONTAINING 3560 GRAMS OF HEROIN NO. 4. THEY ARRESTED FOUR SUBJECTS.

9. ON SEPTEMBER 28, 1974, AT DON MUANG AIRPORT IN BANGKOK RTG CUSTOMS OFFICERS ARRESTED A THAI COURIER WITH THREE SUITCASES FILLED WITH NARCOTICS AS HE ATTEMPTED TO SMUGGLE THE GOODS ABOARD A FLIGHT TO SAIGON. A TOTAL OF 11.2 KILOGRAMS OF HEROIN NO. 4 AND 21 KILOGRAMS, OF DOUBLE RABBIT BRAND SMOKING OPIUM WAS SEIZED. PART OF THE SHIPMENT WAS REPORTEDLY INTENDED FOR DELIVERY TO THE UNITED STATES.

#### IV. INCOME SUBSTITUTION

##### A. UNPDAC

1. THE MAJOR CROP BEING PLANTED BY THE UNPDAC CROP SUBSTITUTION PROJECT THIS SEASON IS AGAIN RED KIDNEY BEANS. THE BEAN MARKET, AFTER A PERIOD OF UNCERTAINTY IN 1973, APPEARS NOW TO HAVE BECOME FIRM AND THERE SHOULD BE NO PROBLEM IN SALES OF THIS YEAR'S PRODUCTION. AS THE QUARTER ENDED THE SEED WAS BEING DISTRIBUTED TO SOME 15 VILLAGES TO BE PLANTED IN A MAXIMUM OF 700 RAI.

##### B. HIGHLAND DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (USOM)

1. HIGHLAND DATA SUBPROJECT - RTG NEGOTIATIONS TO OBTAIN THE SERVICES OF AN AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY FIRM HAD NOT BEEN CONCLUDED  
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WHEN THE QUARTER ENDED. ON SEPTEMBER 23, THREE FIRMS - TASCO, TECH DATA, AND PENAS (INDONESIA) SUBMITTED PROPOSALS TO THE RTG. PENAS WAS DISQUALIFIED BECAUSE ITS BID WAS FOUR TIMES HIGHER THAN THE OTHERS. SUBSEQUENT NEGOTIATIONS WITH BOTH TASCO AND TECH DATA BROKE DOWN. LYONS ASSOCIATES SUBSEQUENTLY SUBMITTED AN ALTERNATE PROPOSAL ON OCTOBER 10 AND NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE RTG AND LYONS COMMENCED ON OCTOBER 11. NEGOTIATIONS ARE STILL UNDERWAY WITH EXPECTATIONS THAT A CONTRACT WILL BE SIGNED IN OCTOBER.

2. HIGHLAND RESEARCH SUBPROJECT - A FOUR-MAN TEAM COMPLETED A DESIGN PROPOSAL FOR THE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH STATION AND ON OCTOBER 2 PRESENTED THEIR FINDINGS TO THE RTG INCOME SUBSTITUTION SUBCOMMITTEE, CHAIRED BY SECRETARY PRIDA, MOAC. THE PRESENTATION STIMULATED A HIGH DEGREE OF INTEREST IN THIS INTER-AGENCY GROUP. THE FINAL REPORT WAS DISTRIBUTED OCTOBER 15 WITH COPIES TO BE POUCHED TO WASHINGTON ON OCTOBER 25.

3. HIGHLAND PRESERVED FOOD SUBPROJECT - ARRIVAL OF FY 1973 PROCUREMENT FOR THE CHIANG RAI CANNERY IS EXPECTED IN NOVEMBER WITH FY 1974 PROCUREMENT EXPECTED FOR A SECOND CANNERY IN CHIANG MAI BEFORE THE END OF THIS CALENDAR YEAR.

C. USOM ASSISTANCE FOR ENFORCEMENT

1. CUSTOMS - A PROPOSAL TO PROCURE SEVEN LOCALLY BUILT PURSUIT BOATS FROM THE U.S. FOR RTG CUSTOMS HAS BEEN REVISED DUE TO THE LACK OF PROVEN DESIGNS AVAILABLE FOR LOCAL BUILDERS. APPROVAL IS BEING REQUESTED TO PROCURE SIX SEACRAFT, INC., 23 FOOT PATROL/PURSUIT BOATS THAT MEET THE REQUIRED SPECIFICATIONS.

2. INTERDICTION ROAD - AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED WITH THE NATIONAL SECURITY COMMAND (NSC) TO CONDUCT A SURVEY FOR A KEY INTERDICTION ROAD (RT KMS.) IN CHIANG MAI. DOCUMENTATION IS BEING PREPARED AND THE NSC IS EXPECTED TO START THE SURVEY IN NOVEMBER.

D. MINT PRODUCTION AND PROCESSING

WITH USOM FINANCED SUPPORT, THE APPLIED SCIENCE RESEARCH CORPORATION OF THAILAND (ASRCT) HAS ESTABLISHED EIGHT  
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EXPERIMENTAL AND DEMONSTRATION PLOTS OF MINT IN HILLTRIBE VILLAGE PLOTS AND AGRICULTURAL CROP STATIONS TO TEST THE AGRONOMIC RESPONSE, VILLAGER ACCEPTANCE AND ECONOMIC RETURN OF MINT AS A CASH CROP SUBSTITUTE FOR OPIUM POPPY CULTIVATION. ASRCT EXPECTS THE MINT LEAF HARVESTING TO BE COMPLETED IN DECEMBER AND IS DESIGNING AND TESTING SMALL-SCALE, PORTABLE DISTILLING EQUIPMENT SUITABLE FOR VILLAGE LEVEL INVESTMENT AND OPERATIONS TO PROCESS THE CROP TO CRUDE MINT OIL. A LARGER-SCALE DISTILLERY IS ALSO BEING PROVIDED UNDER THE PROJECT AS A COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENT TO TEST THE FEASIBILITY OF TRANSPORTING MINT LEAD TO A CENTRAL PROCESSING LOCATION.

E. DOI SAM MUEN PILOT REFORRESTATION PROJECT

DURING THIS QUARTER 200 RAI OF DENUDED WATERSHED HAS BEEN REFORESTED BY THE ROYAL FORESTRY DEPARTMENT (RFD) WITH USOM FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND UNPDAC GUIDANCE. OF THE 20 FAMILIES PROVIDING A PEAK SEASON LABOR FORCE TALLING ABOUT 70 PERSONS, ONE-HALF WERE HILLTRIBE LISU CONTRACTED AT UP TO BAHT 600 MONTH PER FAMILY. THE BALANCE WERE LOWLAND THAI TRAINED IN REFORESTATION AND HIRED AT DAILY WAGES. DURING THE OFF SEASON (DRY WEATHER) A RESIDUAL FORCE OF LISU WILL BE RETAINED TO PROVIDE FIRE PROTECTION FOR THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED PLANTED AREA. THE RFD PLANS TO EXPAND THE REFORESTATION AREA ANNUALLY AND ANTICIPATES THAT HILLTRIBE VILLAGERS WILL CONSTITUTE 75 PERCENT OF THE LABOR FORCE IN THE SECOND YEAR AND 100 PERCENT IN THE THIRD.

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AMCONSUL SONGKHLA  
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F. ZONAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

AT THE REQUEST OF THE RTG, USOM PROVIDED (PASA) 30- DAY TDY SERVICES OF A US FORESTER TO REVIEW AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING AN EXPANDED REFORESTATION PROJECT PROPOSAL JOINTLY DEVELOPED BY THE ROYAL FORESTRY DEPARTMENT AND USOM. A REPORT WAS SUBMITTED AND THE PROPOSED PROJECT WAS SUBSEQUENTLY BROADENED TO INCORPORATE SEVERAL OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND TO INCLUDE INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT, FOREST INDUSTRIES AND AGRICULTURE AS PROJECT INCOME SUBSTITUTION ELEMENTS. THIS MORE COMPREHENSIVE PROJECT PROPOSAL HAS BEEN RETITLED ZONAL DEVELOPMENT. CURRENTLY, USOM IS NEGOTIATING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE RTG TO ASSIST IN FINANCING SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND GEOPHYSICAL FIELD SURVEYS TO PROVIDE FURTHER INFORMATION  
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NECESSARY TO THE PLANNING OF THE PROJECT.

G. CHANG KHIAN SITE B WATER SUPPLY

THE USOM SUPPORTED SITE B WATER SUPPLY PROJECT WILL BE COMPLETED IN COTOBER, IN TIME FOR THE CURRENT PLANTING SEASON.

H. USDA SUPPORTED RESEARCH

1. DURING THE QUARTER TWO USDA SUPPORTED PLANT SUBSTITUTION PROJECTS WERE FUNDED, AND INITIAL PAYMENTS WERE MADE TO THE CONTRACTORS:

A. STRAWBERRIES - CONTRACT IS WITH KASETSART UNIVERSITY FOR \$40,900. THIS PROJECT HAS BEEN STARTED AND ADDITIONAL PLANT MATERIALS HAVE BEEN ORDERED FROM A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES.

B. TREE NUTS - CONTRACT IS WITH THE FORESTRY DEPARTMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATIVES FOR \$115,797. THIS PROJECT WILL BE STARTED IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1974.

2. THE SECOND SEMI-ANNUAL PAYMENT WAS MADE ON THE DECIDUOUS FRUIT PROJECT. KASETSART UNIVERSITY HAS MADE GOOD PROGRESS ON THIS PROJECT AND HAS FOUND SEVERAL VARIETIES OF DECIDUOUS FRUITS THAT SHOW PROMISE IN THE HIGHLANDS.

3. RESEARCH ON THE MUSHROOM PROJECT HAS NOT ADVANCED AS QUICKLY AS ANTICIPATED. THE RESEARCH SCIENTISTS IN CHARGE OF THE PROJECT HAS NOT BEEN RELEASED BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND, THEREFORE, HAS BEEN UNABLE TO SUPERVISE THE RESEARCH. THE FIRST SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT ON THE PROJECT HAS NOT BEEN RECEIVED, AND ADDITIONAL PAYMENTS HAVE NOT BEEN MADE TO THE CONTRACTOR.

4. THE VALUE OF PROJECTS FUNDED SINCE THE PROGRAM WAS INITIATED IS \$564,266.

#### V. TREATMENT/REHABILITATION/EDUCATION

A. ON SEPTEMBER 22, THE LIONS INTERNATIONAL (REGION 310) MET TO PLAN A NATIONWIDE EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST DRUG  
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ABUSE TO BE HELD IN OCTOBER. THE CENTRAL NARCOTICS BOARD (CNB) WILL SUPPLY EDUCATIONAL MATERIAL FOR THE CAMPAIGN.

B. THE CNB WAS ACTIVE DURING THE QUARTER IN ITS ONGOING EDUCATIONAL EFFORTS. DURING SEPTEMBER, CNB OFFICIALS MADE DAILY VISITS TO SCHOOLS IN THE BANGKOK AREA AND DISTRIBUTED EDUCATIONAL MATERIAL. POLICE MAJOR GENERAL PHAO SARASIN, HEAD OF THE CNB, HAS PUBLICLY STATED THAT HIS ORGANIZATION WILL BE DEVOTING MORE TIME TO EDUCATION ON DRUG ABUSE AND WORK WITH CORRECTIONS OFFICIALS ON REHABILITATION. PHAO HIMSELF HAS BEEN SPEAKING ON THAILAND'S NARCOTICS PROBLEM AND HAS RECEIVED GOOD COVERAGE IN THE PRESS.

#### VI. TRAINING

##### A. DEA SPONSORED

THE NATIONAL TRAINING INSTITUTE OF DEA CONDUCTED A 2-WEEK COURSE IN NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT FOR APPROXIMATELY 60 RTG NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS IN BANGKOK DURING THE PERIOD AUGUST 26 - SEPTEMBER 7, 1974.

##### B. USOM SPONSORED

THREE HUNDRED RECRUITS FROM THE METRO UNIT, TNP, RECEIVED BASIC AWARENESS TRAINING THIS QUARTER. IN ADDITION, 87 OFFICERS GRADUATING FROM THE FOUR-YEAR COURSE AT SAM PHRAN ACADEMY

RECEIVED NARCOTICS ACADEMIC AND ON-THE-JOB TRAINING.

VII. REGIONAL AND MULTILATERAL COOPERATION

TWO REGIONAL CONFERENCES WERE HELD IN BANGKOK DURING THE QUARTER. THE COLOMBO PLAN REGIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL CONFERENCE CONVENED FROM JULY 29 TO AUGUST 3 (BANGKOK A-231), AND THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE OF OPERATIONAL HEADS OF NATIONAL NARCOTICS LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES (FAR EAST REGION) WAS HELD FROM SEPTEMBER 2 TO SEPTEMBER 6 (BANGKOK A-265). BOTH CONFERENCES PROVIDED OPPORTUNITIES FOR DEVELOPING PERSONAL CONTACTS AMONG NARCOTICS LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS FROM THE REGION. BOTH CONFERENCES ALSO ISSUED A NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS DESIGNED TO FURTHER REGIONAL COOPERATION. THE MOST SIGNIFICANT  
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RECOMMENDATION WAS THE UN CONFERENCE PROPOSAL THAT THE UN APPOINT A "REGIONAL NARCOTICS LIAISON OFFICER". IF APPOINTED, THIS MAN WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REGIONAL COOPERATION AND WILL SERVE AS A PERMANENT MECHANISM FOR COORDINATING FUTURE REGIONAL EFFORTS.

VIII. ABUSE

A. A USOM FINANCED DRUG ABUSE STUDY BY PROFESSOR SERIN PUNNAHITANOND OF CHULALONGKORN UNIVERSITY WAS PUBLISHED IN JULY. PROFESSOR SERIN FOUND THAT LESS THAN THREE PERCENT OF STUDENTS IN THE BANGKOK/THONBURI AREA AND LESS THAN TWO PERCENT OF THE SELECTED HOUSEHOLD RESPONDENTS WERE DRUG ADDICTS. PROFESSOR SERIN CONCLUDED THAT THE EXTENT OF DRUG ABUSE IN THAILAND IS MUCH LESS THAN WHAT WAS INDICATED BY SOME INFORMAL ESTIMATES DURING THE LAST TWO YEARS. (COMMENT: WHILE LOWER THAN SOME PREVIOUS ESTIMATES, THESE FIGURES APPEAR TO REPRESENT A SIGNIFICANT PROBLEM.) MARIHUANA WAS FOUND TO BE THE MOST PREVALENT DRUG USED BY NON-ADDICT STUDENTS (ABOUT SEVEN PERCENT HAD USED MARIHUANA MORE THAN TWICE). THE STUDY ALSO CONCLUDED THAT: A. MOST ADDICTS ARE HEROIN USERS; B. SECONAL IS POPULAR ONLY AMONG STUDENTS AND OTHER YOUTH; C. THE USE OF COCAINE IS VIRTUALLY UNHEARD OF; D. STUDENTS ARE BEGINNING TO GAIN ACCESS TO HALLUCINOGENS; AND E. THE AVERAGE DRUG STORE IS THE MOST IMPORTANT SOURCE OF DRUG SUPPLY.

B. DURING THE PAST QUARTER, THE THAI PRESS HAS GIVEN INCREASING COVERAGE TO THE PROBLEM OF DRUG ABUSE. MOST OF THIS RECENT ATTENTION HAS BEEN THE RESULT OF PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS OR MAGAZINE ARTICLES BY FIGURES SUCH AS MAJOR GENERAL PHAO SARASIN, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE THAI CENTRAL NARCOTICS BOARD; PHETHAI AMATAYAKUL, PRESEIDENT OF THE ANTI-NARCOTIC DRUG ASSOCIATION OF THAILAND; DR. ARUN CHAWANASAI OF PHRA MONGKUTKLAR HOSPITAL; AND DR. OPOSS THAMMARANICK, CHIEF OF THE BANGKOK

MUNICIPAL HEALTH PROMOTIONAL DIVISION. ESTIMATES OF ADDICTION NATION-WIDE USED BY THESE SOURCES RANGE FROM 300,000 TO 400,000. MUCH OF THE EMPHASIS IN THE PRESS HAS BEEN ON THE DANGERS OF DRUGS PRESENTED TO THAI YOUTH. A STUDENT RESEARCH GROUP FROM MAHIDOL UNIVERSITY, FOR EXAMPLE, WAS QUOTED IN THE NATION ON AUGUST 13 AS MAKING THE ALARMING DISCOVERY THAT ABOUT 80 PERCENT OF THE YOUTH IN A SLUM NEAR BANGKOK WERE ADDICTED TO

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HEROIN. ALSO, PHAO SARASIN ESTIMATED THAT THERE WERE ABOUT 45,000 STUDENTS WHO USED DRUGS. (COMMENT: WHILE THESE ADDICTION ESTIMATES ARE PROBABLY HIGH, THE PUBLICITY GIVEN THEM IS A SIGN OF INCREASING THAI CONCERN ABOUT DRUG ABUSE).

IX. MISSION AND HOST COUNTRY ACTIVITIES

DURING THE FIRST QUARTER OF FY 1975, ACTIVITY CENTERED ON PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF THE FY 76 NARCOTICS PROGRAM AND INCLUDED DISCUSSION WITH SEVERAL RTG DEPARTMENTS ON DEVELOPMENT OF FY 75 AND 76 PROJECT ACTIVITIES. PLANNING CONTINUES WITHIN USOM AND WITH THE RTG ON A ZONAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT TO PROVIDE AN INTEGRATED APPROACH IN SELECTED AREAS TO INCOME SUBSTITUTION, HILLTRIBE EMPLOYMENT AND WATERSHED PROTECTION.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 25 OCT 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** shawdg  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION EA  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 12  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** A) BANGKOK 11537  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** shawdg  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 18 JUN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <18 JUN 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <12 MAR 2003 by shawdg>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NARCOTICS - QUARTERLY ROUNDUP OF THAI DEVELOPMENTS JULY THROUGH SEPTEMBER 1974  
**TAGS:** SNAR, TH  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005